

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-01

INFO OCT-01 PA-01 INR-01 ISO-00 /004 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5631

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 7690

FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION -- PRESIDENT'S TRIP

REF USIA 17591

1. ALL PAPERS ON AUGUST 5 REPORT STATEMENT BY TITO  
THAT YUGOSLAVIA AND US HAVE SIMILAR VIEWS ON ME  
CRISIS. TITO IS REPORTED TO HAVE REACHED CONCLUSION  
ABOUT SIMILARITY OF VIEWS FOLLOWING TALKS WITH FORD IN  
WHICH HE LEARNED ABOUT FUTURE US PLANS IN AREA.  
ALSO SPEAKING TO PRESS, PREIDENT FORD IS QUOTED AS  
SAYING THAT CURRENT ME STALEMATE IS "UNACCEPTABLE".  
AL AHRAM AND AL AKHBAR REFER TO PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT  
THAT US WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE ME  
PROGRESS AND THAT FLEXIBILITY IS NECESSARY IF GRAVE  
CONSEQUENCES ARE TO BE AVOIDED. AL AHRAM ADDS  
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PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT THAT "ALL PARTIES CONCERNED SHOULD

ADOPT MODERATE POSITIONS." AL AHRAM QUOTES NESSEN AS SAYING THAT "US WAS ENCOURAGED BY TITO'S POSITIVE VIEWS" ON US ME EFFORTS. NESSEN, ACCORDING TO AL AHRAM, DENIED THAT PRESIDENT ATTEMPTED TO WIN TITO'S SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S CONTINUED UN MEMBERSHIP SAYING THAT "TITO'S POSITION WAS MODERATE". NESSEN ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "SIMILARITY BETWEEN AMERICAN AND YUGOSLAV VIEWS ON ME PROBLEM, EXPRESSED BY TITO, DOES NOT MEAN THAT PRESIDENT FORD SUPPORTS TITO'S CALL FOR CREATION OF INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE." AL AHRAM AND AL AKHBAR ALSO SAY THAT US OFFICIALS ACCOMPANYING PRESIDENT BELIEVED THAT PRESIDENT WAS INTERESTED IN HAVING TITO CONVINCE PRO-ARAB NATIONS THAT IT WAS UNNECESSARY TO SUBMIT PROPOSAL FOR EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN.

2. AL AKHBAR ALONE REPORTS THAT ACCORDING TO YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS, "TITO EXPRESSED GROWING CONCERN ABOUT INCREASING PRESENCE OF SOVIET SUBS IN MEDITERRANEAN FOLLOWING SOVIET PRESSURES TO OBTAIN BASES ON YUGOSLAV COAST."

3. AL GUMHURIYA QUOTES UNNAMED "INFORMED SOURCES" AS SAYING THAT PRESIDENT ALSO DISCUSSED SUPPLYING YUGOSLAVIA WITH US MILITARY AID IN FORM OF SPARE PARTS.

4. EDITORIALLY, AL AHRAM CITES "WISDOM" OF TITO'S DINNER STATEMENT THAT US EFFORTS FOR JUST SETTLEMENT OF ME CRISIS ARE NOT SUFFICIENT. PAPER COMMENTS THAT TITO DID NOT SUGGEST ANY COURSE OF ACTION WHICH US CANNOT TAKE OR THAT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO ITS INTERESTS. "IT IS NOT IN AMERICAN INTERESTS", EDITORIAL STATES, "TO MAINTAIN ISRAEL AS AN OBSTACLE TO IMPROVEMENT OF ARAB-AMERICAN RELATIONS."

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** USIA  
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